

411 Chough



Chough. Adult (06-I).

CHOUGH (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*)

IDENTIFICATION

36-42 cm. Glossy black plumage; pointed and decurved bill; red bill and legs.



Chough. Colour of bill and legs.

SIMILAR SPECIES

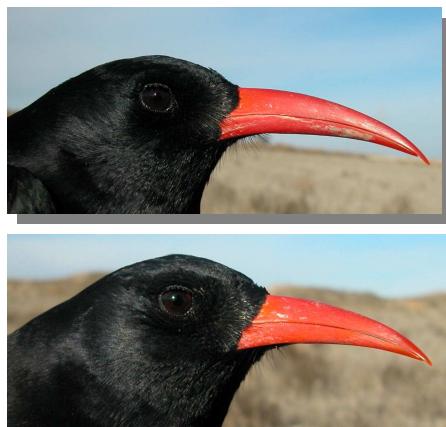
Similar to Alpine Chough, which has yellow bill.



Alpine Chough

SEXING

Plumage of both sexes alike. Size can be helpful with extreme specimens: **male** with tarsus about 55,7 mm and wing longer than 288 mm. **Female** is smaller with tarsus about 51,5 mm and wing shorter than 268 mm. Usually **males** have a longer bill (more than 65 mm) than **females** (less than 50 mm) but many birds cannot be confidently sexed due to size overlap.



Chough.
Sexing.
Adult.
Length of
bill: top
male;
bottom
female.

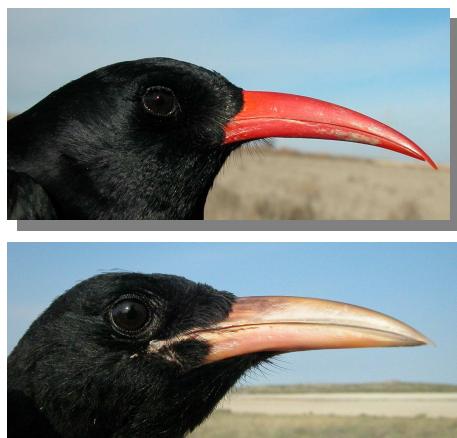
AGEING

3 types of age can be recognized:

Juvenile with fresh plumage; duller red legs; dull orange yellow bill; dark iris.

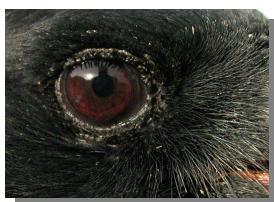
1st year autumn/2nd year spring with moult limit between glossy body feathers (and lesser coverts if moulted) and duller juvenile feathers on wing and tail; worn flight and tail feathers.

Adult with glossy black plumage on wing and tail, without moult limits; red bill; reddish iris.



Chough.
Ageing.
Colour of
bill: top
adult;
bottom
juvenile.

411 Chough



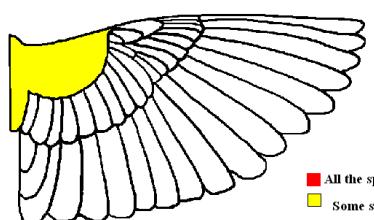
Chough. Ageing. Colour of iris: left adult; right juvenile.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished early November. Partial **postjuvenile** moult, mostly confined to body feathers and often lesser coverts; finished in October.



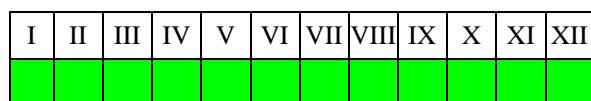
Chough. Juvenile (18-VI).



Chough.
Extent of
postjuvenile
moult.

■ All the specimens
■ Some specimens

PHENOLOGY



Chough.
Length
and colour
of bill: top
adult male
(06-I);
middle
adult
female
(06-I);
bottom
juvenile
(18-VI)

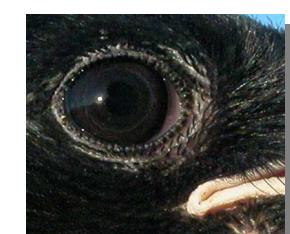


STATUS IN ARAGÓN

Resident. Distributed throughout the Region breeding on cliffs and buildings.



Chough. 2nd year (06-I).



Chough. Iris colour:
top left adult (28-V);
top right 2nd year (18-II);
left juvenile (22-V).

411 Chough



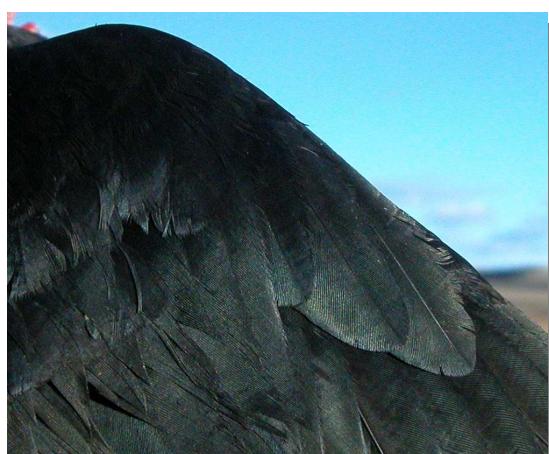
Chough. Breast pattern: top left adult (06-I); top right 2nd year (06-I); left juvenile (18-VI).



Chough. Tail wear: top left adult (18-II); top right 2nd year (06-I); left juvenile (18-VI).



Chough. Upperpart pattern: top left adult (06-I); top right 2nd year (06-I); left juvenile (18-VI).



Chough. Adult: pattern of alula (18-II).

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Chough. 2nd year: pattern of alula (18-II).



Chough. 2nd year: pattern of wing (18-II).



Chough. Juvenile: pattern of alula (18-II).



Chough. Juvenile: pattern of wing (18-II).



Chough. Adult: pattern of wing (18-II).